

November 1932
To May 1943

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Nov. 3, 1932.

Doubtless you are aware that in the reorganization of the Board, the responsibility for the administration of our mission work among Indians, Alaskans, and Lumber-jacks has been assigned to me. For many years these phases of our Board's work have been administered by my good friend, Dr. Andrew J. Montgomery, who has now retired from active service. I am aware of the deep affection in which Dr. Montgomery is held by all the workers in these fields - to most of whom he was known personally and who have had unlimited confidence in his missionary zeal and sympathetic spirit. We greatly miss his happy, wholesome, and friendly contact in the headquarters offices.

In assuming these additional responsibilities, I am aware of my lack of intimate knowledge of many of the fields and the workers, and I beg your forbearance and patience as we endeavor together to devise plans and methods looking toward the growth of the work and the achievement of results that will bring honor to our Christ and the greatest satisfaction to ourselves. I am told by many who have written me their word of greeting and welcome into this new and larger fellowship in the National Missions cause, that the time is ripe for a forward movement truly evangelistic in character, and with clearly defined objectives, depending upon the power of the Holy Spirit to guide us aright and to place the seal of His approval upon our humble efforts.

To this end I am anxious to receive from each missionary in the Indian field a statement of his or her own convictions growing out of his or her own experience concerning any changes in the present method of approach to this task, and frankly suggesting any improvement or enlargement of the program which the Board has been following in its ministry to Indians in the particular area to which each missionary is assigned. These suggestions will be sympathetically considered and made the subjects of conferences with the different groups of workers. Let us study our field and our task together and sympathetically, conscious of our mutual desire and purpose to discover and adopt the policies and methods that give promise of the best results in building Christ's Kingdom among our Indian brethren.

It is my plan to visit as many of the fields as possible during the coming months, but in the meantime I must rely upon your helpful assistance and counsel, and I shall appreciate especially your frank suggestions concerning our future policy and program. I hope you will feel perfectly free to write to me at any time concerning the intimate problems of your field, with the assurance of my sympathetic understanding and desire to help

B U L L E T I N
FOR INDIAN AND ALASKAN MISSIONARIES

November, 1932

Dear Fellow Workers:

We are greatly encouraged by the responses we have received to our letter of greeting to the Indian and Alaskan missionaries, and by the assurances which these letters have contained, of earnest cooperation and prayerful effort in carrying forward our missionary work in these fields on the basis of a practicable program. In order to further promote the morale of all the workers, and to develop a stronger spirit of unity and understanding in this work in which we have so many interests in common, we shall endeavor to keep all the missionaries informed by means of occasional "Bulletins" with reference to developments in our program in these special fields. We earnestly invite all the missionaries to contribute paragraphs with reference to the work in their own particular field which can be included in these "Bulletins." Thus we may help and inspire one another.

Sunday School Literature:

We are very anxious that all our Indian and Alaskan Sunday schools shall be equipped with necessary lesson helps and other literature. It is understood, of course, that all our mission stations are using Presbyterian literature, but we know of a number of mission stations which find it difficult to find the necessary funds to purchase the literature they require. We would like to hear from each missionary with reference to this matter, giving us the following information:-

1. The number of Sunday schools under his (or her) care.
2. Whether each of these Sunday schools is now purchasing its lesson material.
3. Whether additional lesson material is required in order to do effective work.
4. Whether these Sunday schools are equipped with hymn books.
5. Whether Bibles are needed, and if so in what quantity.

Through a special fund which is available for Sunday School Missionary work, we will be able to assist our Indian and Alaskan Sunday schools that need assistance with grants of necessary literature when necessary. We do not purpose making grants in cases where Sunday schools have been accustomed to buy their literature, for we do not want to pauperize any school or mission station. In all cases where grants are made, we would expect the Sunday school, after a reasonable period, to begin to pay at least something toward the cost of the supplies and to continue to pay at least a part of the cost each quarter, with the hope of attaining the goal of full self-support in this matter.

Hymn Books and Bibles:

We feel that hymn books are a necessity to the proper conduct of the Sunday school. We have a very excellent hymn book that is available for ten cents a copy, entitled, "Praise and Service." We will be glad to make copies of this book available for our Indian and Alaskan mission stations at this price. In cases where Sunday schools are not able to pay anything for their supplies and are in need of hymn books, we will be glad if the missionary will inform us of the fact so that we may consider the matter of making a grant. Of course, in every case the Sunday school should be encouraged to pay at least something toward the cost of these books.

We have relations with the American Bible Society which make it possible for us to secure grants of a limited quantity of Bibles and Testaments. We want to extend to our Indian and Alaskan missions the same privileges that our Sunday school mission stations have in securing grants of Bibles in cases where they are needed and where the missionary gives assurance that the Bibles will be presented only to those who promise to read them or as rewards for certain Bible memory work which the children have accomplished.

Church Properties:

It is our earnest desire that all our mission properties shall be kept in good repair. We feel that in every case where a church property is allowed to deteriorate through lack of care and attention, it discredits our Church and its work. We want our congregations to take a pride in keeping their church property in first-class condition, and the Board urges its missionaries to cultivate this sense of pride in all the fields where church buildings and manses have been erected by the Board, and to impress upon the people their responsibility for keeping these properties in good repair. Minor repairs, if given immediate attention, will often save the outlay of a larger sum for a major repair later.

We would like to establish the policy of having all our mission congregations assume the responsibility, financially and otherwise, for such minor repairs, including the painting of the buildings when necessary, clearing the grounds surrounding the church, and keeping the whole property in such condition as will indicate that the people have a regard and care for the house of God. In the case of repairs that require a larger expense than the people are able to provide for locally, we trust that the missionary will write directly to the headquarters office without delay so that each item can be entered upon our records for attention as rapidly as repair money can be made available out of the Board's treasury.

If each case is brought to our attention as the need arises, we will hope within a reasonable time to be able to take care of every case of needed repairs promptly, and thus have all our mission properties present a much more attractive appearance than is now the case in many fields. The condition of the mission property is an important part of our work of training the people. The fact that the Board erected the building without any contributions from the people themselves, should never be regarded as a reason for the people to feel that they have no interest in repairing the building or in beautifying the grounds surrounding the property.

We are sure that every one of the missionaries in the Indian fields and in the Alaska fields as well will be glad to cooperate with us in this matter, and we shall be very glad to receive suggestions with reference to ways in which our properties can be made more attractive. Missionaries who have already put forth special efforts in this direction with good results, are invited to write the headquarters office explaining the methods by which they have accomplished them, so that other missionaries may profit by their experience.

Relations With The Indian Bureau:

At a meeting of the Committee on Indian Work of the Home Missions Council, held several months ago and prior to the present administration of the Indian work of the Board, it was agreed by all the denominational representatives to concur in the request of the Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Wilbur, and of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to have all communications from missionaries with reference to matters pertaining to relationships with the Government representatives located in Indian stations where missionaries are serving, to clear through the denominational headquarters instead of being addressed directly to the Department at Washington. Mr. Wilbur, Mr. Rhoads, and Mr. Scattergood, are all very kindly disposed toward the missionary representatives of the various denominations in Indian fields, and they wish to accord them every courtesy and assistance, recognizing the common interests of the Government and of the Church in the effort to advance the work of Christianization and civilization among the Indians; but they feel that our own interests will be better served if communications from the missionaries containing suggestions or criticisms of the Government's policy and program clear through the headquarters offices of the denominational Boards instead of being sent directly to the Bureau in Washington.

Since this policy was agreed to by the denominational representatives, including the representatives of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., we will loyally abide by their decision and carry on under this plan. We wish to assure each missionary that any communications of this character will receive our most earnest consideration and attention and will be brought to the attention of the appropriate office in Washington through the channels that have been provided.

Collections On The Field:

There is a growing feeling in our Board that our Indian congregations should be making better progress in the matter of contributions toward self-support. It is certain that one of the most important factors in the training of the Indians toward the establishment of an indigenous church is their recognition and acceptance of responsibility to do as much as they possibly can, in spite of their very limited means, toward the support of their church. We recognize that the Indians cannot give largely, but they should be encouraged to give regularly and should be trained to understand that an important factor in worship is the bringing of offerings to the Lord. Some of our Indian churches have already made excellent progress in this direction under persistent efforts on the part of the missionaries to bring them to an understanding of their responsibility in this matter.

The Board pays the full salary of the Indian missionaries, and it would seem that each Indian mission should make it a matter of pride under the leadership of the missionary, to raise as much as possible to be refunded to the Board in monthly remittances by the missionary, representing their participation in the support of the work and as an act of worship on their part. Where it is not

already being done, may we not agree to inaugurate this policy beginning December 1st of this year? It will be a matter of great gratification to our Board if we can show them a record of increasing gifts on the part of the Indian missions during the next twelve months toward the support of their own work. Amounts thus remitted to the Board will be kept in a separate fund.

Maintenance, Travel, and Repair Grants:

Inquiries have been made with reference to our policy concerning maintenance, travel, and repair grants. After conference with the Administrative Secretary of the Board, we have agreed upon the following policy, in which we trust each missionary will cordially cooperate:-

1. Grants for maintenance are to be expended for the operating expenses of the mission station, such as fuel, light, water, and a small expense for janitor service only when necessary and when these expenses cannot be provided for out of the gifts of the congregation, together with any expense incurred by special gatherings at the station, as for instance on Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving, etc. Efforts should be made by the missionary to provide for as large a portion or for all of these expenses as may be practicable through the gifts of the congregation. Telephone, light, fuel, and water for the missionary's residence are the missionary's personal expense and are not paid by the Board. A separate account should be kept of these items which are a part of the missionary's living expenses and which should be paid out of his salary.
2. All items chargeable to the Board under maintenance as above described, should be reported each month in an itemized statement with receipts or bills attached showing amounts paid or due. The missionary will be reimbursed by the addition of the total of these items to his salary check each month.
3. Repairs to the mission property, including the church, manse, community house, or other buildings, should be requisitioned from the Board through the Secretary in charge of Indian and Alaskan work, in the following manner:
 - (a) When the members of the mission are willing to donate the necessary labor, secure an estimate of the cost of the material required, and transmit it to the Secretary at headquarters. If funds are available in the current budget, the grant will be made and authority given to proceed with the work.
 - (b) In cases where hired labor must be employed in addition to the purchase of material, the estimate sent to headquarters should include both items and the same procedure described above should be followed.
 - (c) In all cases where repairs are necessary, the missionary is expected to put forth every possible effort to raise the necessary funds on the field. If labor is not donated in lieu of money, the local congregation is expected to make special efforts to raise as large a portion of the cost as possible, requesting the Board's assistance by a grant of the remainder.

- (d) Repairs are not to be charged against the grant for maintenance.
 - (e) The Board desires that all its mission properties shall be kept in good repair, and the missionary is charged with the responsibility for keeping the Board informed of needed repairs to keep the interior and exterior of its buildings weatherproof, painted, and of creditable appearance.
4. In cases where grants are allowed for traveling expenses, they should include railroad fare (where passes are not available), gas and oil for the operation of the missionary's automobile in his missionary journeys, and other expenses incident to its upkeep. The Board does not assume the expense of automobile insurance or license fees. Expense for meals and lodging while on missionary trips may be charged to traveling expense accounts in cases where local entertainment is not available or desirable.
5. Traveling expense grants will not be paid to the missionary in equal monthly installments. The missionary should keep a careful record of all expenses incurred each month for the items which are to be charged to the Board, as described above, and should report them on his monthly voucher. He will then be reimbursed by the inclusion of this amount in his salary check. Care should be exercised in arranging missionary journeys so far as may be practicable to keep the total of traveling expenses for the full year below the maximum amount allotted by the Board to the missionary for that purpose. It will be a source of satisfaction and pride to each missionary to cooperate with the Board in carrying on his work at the minimum expense consistent with efficiency and fruitful service, and always well within the maximum allotment for his traveling expenses for the year.
6. In cases where interpreters or helpers are employed, they will be regularly commissioned by the Board in the same manner as the missionaries in charge of the stations, and they will be expected to make out regular monthly reports, including a narrative report, and the checks for their salaries will be mailed directly to them in care of the missionary. (Special report blanks will be prepared for the use of interpreters and helpers with salary vouchers attached.) More detailed information concerning this matter will be sent to the missionaries in a separate letter regarding the preparation of monthly report blanks and narrative reports.

General:

You are aware that a great many of our churches are studying the Indian work this year, using the text book which has been prepared for mission-study groups. We are anxious to be in a position to supply the many inquiring churches with current news with reference to our Indian field, and we earnestly invite the Indian missionaries to make known the needs of their local stations in the matter of equipment, etc., which we can transmit to the churches that are interested in adopting some special project. We should be in a position to

capitalize the increased interest in Indian work that is being cultivated through the study of this field this year, for the growth and development of this phase of our Board's work of evangelization.

It is interesting, and it should be very encouraging to every missionary to feel that more than ever before the people in our churches are remembering the Indian missionaries and the members of our Indian churches in their prayers as they study the needs of these people. We should all be anxious to cooperate to the best of our ability in helping to answer these many petitions that will arise to the Throne of Grace for a new baptism of the Spirit of God upon the work and the workers and for the winning of new converts.

Literature For The Missionary's Use:

We are in a position to provide the missionary with large Bible pictures in colors, to be used in his pastoral visitations, to leave in the homes of the Indians, and (especially in the case of the Navajos) to be used among groups of Indians whom the missionary visits in camps or in the hogans, to help in explaining to them the life and teachings of Jesus, and to aid in telling the Bible stories. It has occurred to us that the little leaflet, "The Way Of Life", a copy of which is attached, would be gladly received by the Indians; and in every case where it is given to an Indian child in Sunday school or in the home, the child should be urged to commit to memory the material which it contains, with the understanding that having committed it to memory a New Testament will be presented as a reward. We shall be glad to provide the Testaments for this purpose.

Other literature is available for the missionary's use, such as back numbers of Sunday school cards, tracts, etc., for general distribution.

With very best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

J. M. SOMERNDIKE,

Secretary.

JMS:BH

February 1933

B U L L E T I N
FOR THE ALASKA MISSIONARIES
February, 1933

Dear Fellow-Workers:

Under separate cover, we are sending you a package of the new forms for monthly reports which have been prepared for the use of the Alaska Missionaries. We would like the Missionaries to begin the use of these forms on April 15th. Please continue the use of the old forms up to and including the report that is made out on March 15th.

You will find this new report form very simple and easy to fill out. It is designed to give the Missionary an opportunity to indicate his activities each day, realizing as we do that the program of our Alaska work is not merely a Sunday preaching program, but that it includes daily ministries of a varied character, which could not be recorded in the old form of reports.

Please note that each monthly report should be mailed to the Chairman of the Presbyterial Committee on National Missions, who will sign it, indicating his approval, and forward it to the headquarters office in New York. Missionaries in Alaska Presbytery should mail their monthly reports to Rev. Russell Pederson, Box 275, Wrangell, Alaska; and the Missionaries in Yukon Presbytery should mail their reports to Rev. E. L. Winterberger, Anchorage, Alaska. These Chairmen will promptly sign the reports and forward them to the New York office.

SALARY CHECKS

Salary checks will continue to be mailed to the Missionaries in Alaska on the 10th of each month as has been done in the past, covering the salary for the current month. Thus, the salary check is sent to the Missionary in advance of the receipt of his monthly report. We desire, however, that the Missionary shall fill out the salary voucher for the amount of salary due for the current calendar month, just as he has been doing in the past. The use of these new report blanks will not make any difference in the arrangements that have prevailed in the past for the payment of salaries.

COPIES OF THE REPORT

Each Missionary should keep a copy of each monthly report for his own record, and we have sent a sufficient number of blanks to enable him to do this. In view of the fact that both sides of the sheet were needed for the information we desire concerning the activities in each field, it will be impossible to make carbon copies of the reports, as had been done in the past. We realize that a little extra labor will be involved in making the extra copy for the Missionary's files, but we

are confident that no objection will be raised, in view of the opportunity which the new form provides for making a more complete report.

MONTHLY NARRATIVE

Please note that the Board has requested with each monthly report a written statement describing the nature of the activities of the month, and regarding interesting incidents and experiences. This narrative report should be of greater value to the Board than the statistics in the report itself. We are greatly in need of more material from the Alaska fields which we can use in our Board's publicity in our efforts to educate the Church with reference to the work which is being done in Alaska and to enable the members of our churches to enter into the life and experiences of our Alaska Missionaries. Please do not omit this monthly narrative report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

You will note that there is attached to the voucher a blank to be used for reporting contributions received from churches and mission stations each month. Such contributions should be enclosed with the report in the form of a check or money order. The Board desires to encourage the Missionaries to develop the congregations in their churches and mission stations as well as the pupils in the Sunday school in the grace of giving, believing that this is an indispensable feature of our work of educating the people to a true appreciation of the privileges and obligations of their Christian enlistment. So far as may be practicable, the Missionaries should encourage the people in all their mission stations to make an offering at every service as an essential part of their service of worship, and contributions thus received should be enclosed with the monthly report as "field receipts."

TRAVEL EXPENSES

Very few of our Missionaries are given expense accounts. In cases where expenses are allowed, an itemized statement of the expenses for each month should be written on the back of the salary voucher.

Faithfully yours,

J. M. SOMERNDIKE,

Secretary.

April 1933

B U L L E T I N #3

FOR THE INDIAN AND ALASKA MISSIONARIES

April, 1933

Dear Fellow Workers:

The financial situation which the Board faces at the close of the Church year is discouraging in the extreme. While we expected a decrease in contributions due to the effect of unemployment and depressed business conditions, we were not prepared for the disturbance in the whole financial structure of the country which was brought about by the closing of banks, a large number of which have not yet reopened, and because of which a great deal of benevolence money which should have found its way into the treasury of the Board is made unavailable. Many of these banks probably never will open and much of the benevolence money on deposit in those banks never will be retrieved. Up to March 1st the decrease in contributions from churches, Sunday schools, and individuals was 25% below the amount received during the corresponding period of the previous year. The alarming shrinkage of the receipts for the month of March upon which we had relied to recover at least a part of this shortage will show a reduction in the total for the entire year considerably in excess of 30%. These reductions in contributions together with losses in receipts from legacies and the loss of interest on invested funds are the factors which made necessary the drastic reduction of \$710,000 in the budget for next year.

The Indian budget and the Alaska budget were called upon to bear their proportionate share of the reduction. We are glad to say that it has been possible for us to effect adjustments in both the Indian and Alaska budgets through rearrangement of fields, equalization of salaries, etc., that will insure the continuance of the work at every station during this new year. Not one Indian station will be closed! Not one Alaska mission will be closed! This is a high tribute to the fine spirit of cooperation and consecration on the part of the Missionaries in Indian and Alaskan fields who are making untold sacrifices in order to carry on their work during this new year. It is a situation which is very encouraging to us at headquarters and it should be refreshing and inspiring to the entire Church to realize that our Missionaries in these fields are doing their work so sacrificially and unselfishly.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

Plans should be made now for the Vacation Bible School which should be held during the period when the schools are closed for the summer vacation. In Indian fields the children will be home from boarding schools and of course the children who attend the local day schools will be on their vacations also. The goal we have set for our Indian and Alaskan missions this year is nothing less than a Vacation Bible School to be held in every Indian and Alaskan church and mission station. This is an essential part of the yearly program and its importance is recognized to such an extent that it is regarded as a necessary feature of the year's work in every church and mission point. Under separate cover, I am sending you a copy of the new textbook which we have just prepared, containing material for teaching Vacation Bible Schools. This book contains Bible stories sufficient for thirty sessions of a Vacation Bible School. The opening pages of the book

contain full instructions about conducting the school, program for the daily session, including hymns and Bible passages to be memorized.

Please make your plans now for the Vacation Bible School to be held in each of the mission points under your care this summer. Enlist the services of some of your young people to assist you in teaching the children. Every Vacation Bible School should hold its sessions for at least ten days (from Monday to Friday inclusive for two weeks). The pastor is held responsible for seeing that these Vacation Bible Schools are conducted and we are making arrangements for publicity to be given at the close of the season to the reports which shall come to us from the various fields.

We are prepared to furnish additional information or material to any of our Missionaries desiring it, excepting hand work materials and to assist them in every possible way to conduct Vacation Bible Schools in the mission points under their care with the highest degree of success.

COLLECTIONS

We are very much encouraged by the willingness expressed by our Alaska Missionaries to put forth special efforts this year in the training of their people in systematic giving to the support of the Church. We have furnished collection envelopes to a number of our missions in Alaska and we believe that under the encouragement and persistent effort of the Missionaries, the people will be brought to an appreciation of their duty and privilege in contributing regularly to the support of the Church, even though the amount of the weekly contribution may be exceedingly small. There are very few members in our mission churches among the Indians and Alaskans who could not put from two to five cents a week in an envelope and bring it to the Church. Let us encourage the people to bring at least something as their offering to the Lord. Let us endeavor by every means at our command during this year to promote the ideals of stewardship among the people and to show them that their worship of God is not adequate or complete without the bringing of a gift no matter how small the gift may be. We are prepared to furnish packages of collection envelopes to as many of our Indian missions as will cooperate in this effort to train their people during the coming year in the practice of systematic giving for local support and for missions also. We are desirous of showing a marked advance during this new year over the records of previous years in this matter.

In my last "Bulletin" relative to the use of the new report blanks, attention was called to the blank attached to the report which is to be used for reporting contributions received from churches and mission stations each month. We stated that "such contributions should be enclosed with the report in the form of a check or money order." This regulation was not intended to effect any change in the present arrangements of any of our Indian churches where current contributions of the congregation are used for local expenses such as fuel, light, General Assembly assessment, and the partial support of the minister. Wherever such arrangements have been made, they should be continued without change. The money which the Missionary should send to the New York Office with his report should represent contributions which the mission station desires to make toward the work of the Board of National Missions; also Children's Day offering, Thanksgiving Day offering, and Lincoln Day offerings of the Sunday schools. In cases where the Board

pays the entire salary of the Missionary, the local congregation making no pledge toward his support, all funds given for local support which are not required for the payment of local expenses such as fuel, light, General Assembly assessment, etc., should be remitted in full to the Board of National Missions and should not be sent to the Central Receiving Agency as benevolent gifts to be divided among all the Boards. Every Missionary who receives his entire salary from the Board will appreciate the importance of having the congregations which he serves refund to the Board as large an amount as possible to represent their share of his salary, entirely apart and in addition to whatever they may contribute to the missionary and benevolence budget.

TRAINING CHURCH OFFICERS

We have been very much encouraged by the reports from a number of our Indian Missionaries regarding the progress of classes which they have organized for the study of the Presbyterian Church, its doctrine, and form of government. We shall be glad to furnish any Indian or Alaska Missionary who will organize such a class, a free copy of Dr. McAfee's book entitled "The Ruling Elder," which is being taught in classes of church officers and other adult members with great success in a number of fields. We are desirous of registering a large number of classes of this kind in our Indian and Alaskan fields during this new year.

CARE OF CHURCH PROPERTY

A considerable amount of money is expended by the Board each year for the repairing of properties in Indian and Alaskan mission fields. In most cases, the people locally have given their labor and the funds provided by the Board have been used for the purchase of paint and other materials. Our congregations should be taught to take special pride in keeping the church property in good repair and in keeping the grounds surrounding the church clean and in good order. On a recent visit to the Pima field, accompanied by the Administrative Secretary of the Board, we were very deeply impressed with the excellent condition of our church properties and the evident pride which the people took in keeping these buildings and grounds in a condition which revealed their love and reverence for the House of God.

It would seem to be advisable to appoint in every church a caretaker or janitor, designating someone who lives reasonably near the church who will accept the responsibility for safeguarding the church against Vandalism and who will be assisted by a committee of men and women who will see that the church is kept scrupulously clean for regular services each Sabbath and will make minor repairs such as replacing broken window lights, stopping leaks, and other inexpensive repairs for which the congregation ought to raise the comparatively small expense by their own contributions.

The Board is anxious that everyone of our church properties shall reflect credit upon our denomination as well as upon the character of the people who comprise its local congregation. Church properties that are in bad repair with broken windows and doors, leaky roofs, and with no indications of any efforts having been made to beautify the grounds surrounding it, are not in a good position to win the confidence and respect of the local community or of strangers.

THE MINISTER'S GARDEN

Quite a number of our Indian and Alaska Missionaries have rendered a very helpful service to their people by making a garden for themselves, keeping it well cultivated, and demonstrating the possibility of raising most of the food required for their own table. It would seem that every one of our Missionaries in Indian fields and in Alaska also would be in a position to render a service of this kind. Vegetable seeds can be obtained at low cost or free of charge from the government offices. Seeing the industry of their minister and the results of his toil, the people in our congregations will be encouraged to put forth similar efforts.

It may seem to some to be relatively unimportant and yet we must realize that even in the making of a garden we may be contributing in a very helpful way to promoting the economic independence and general welfare of the people to whom we are ministering. There is ample ground at most of our mission points available to the Missionary to enable him to make a garden as large as he can find time to cultivate.

REPORT BLANKS

We begin the use of the new report blanks on April 15th. Only two letters have been received objecting to these blanks, but we are encouraged by the large number of letters that have been received expressing satisfaction with this opportunity which we are affording the Missionary to make a more detailed and intelligent report of the actual work that he is doing. The requirement that each monthly report should be sent to the Chairman of the Presbyterial Committee on National Missions for his signature before forwarding it to the New York Office may be waived in any Presbytery by agreement with the Presbyterial Committee. The purpose of this regulation was to keep the National Missions Committee of the Presbytery fully informed with reference to the work in each station and to enable the Chairman to make an intelligent report to the Presbytery at its regular meetings. If the Chairman of the Committee on National Missions in either of the Alaska Presbyteries or in any of the Presbyteries where we are carrying on Indian work, prefer to have the Missionaries send their reports directly to the New York Office without his endorsement, we shall not insist upon the reports being sent to him. This matter, therefore, is left to the discretion of the Committee on National Missions in each Presbytery. We desire in all our work to recognize at all times the supervisory function of the Presbytery in all of our mission work, in cooperation with the Board. The Board does not appoint local supervisors but expects the Presbyterial Committee on National Missions to perform all the functions of supervision in accordance with the constitutional prerogative of the Presbytery.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PROGRAMS

I have been endeavoring to secure the cooperation of the Board of Christian Education in the preparation of a quarterly pamphlet containing material for Young People's Societies, with a weekly topic for discussion. In the "Young People's Quarterly" of the Department Graded Series, you will find the last twenty-eight pages (See Pages 69 - 97) devoted to "Correlated Topics for Young People's Meetings." I am enclosing a copy of this Quarterly for the quarter beginning April 1st, and I would like to have each of our

Indian and Alaska Missionaries frankly tell me after examining these topics and the suggestions for worship which follow, whether they regard this material as being adapted to the needs of our Indian and Alaskan missions. We are determined to secure the publication of a quarterly which we can publish in pamphlet form for the use of young people's groups, for we are convinced that we cannot expect much in the way of growth in any of our missions if we are not enlisting the active interest of the young people. If this material which is found in the "Young People's Quarterly" meets the need in most cases, we shall ask the Board of Christian Education to publish it in a separate pamphlet, making it available for all our Indian and Alaskan missions. If it does not meet the need, will you kindly give us your suggestions concerning the type of material which you feel is best adapted to enlist the interest of our young people's group and could be made effective in their training. We feel deeply the importance of this matter and we realize that the Missionary is handicapped without suitable materials. I would like each Missionary to write me frankly with reference to this matter. If the Christian Endeavor materials are better adapted to the needs of our young people, we shall be glad to make use of them. Please advise us frankly on this subject so that we can work out suitable material that can be made available at the earliest possible moment.

EQUIPMENT

Again we call attention to the matter of providing in each church an adequate supply of good hymnbooks and in providing lesson helps for the Sunday school. It is not necessary for any Sunday school or church to carry on its work without lesson helps and hymnbooks. Please acquaint us with your needs and we shall do our best to supply them.

FINALLY

We are entering a new year of service. We are not discouraged by the many problems that confront us. We look forward to the coming days, rejoicing in the opportunities for service and with the resolution that we shall improve the opportunities which each day affords to record some gain for the sake of Christ and for the sake of the needy to whom we are sent as His ministers.

Faithfully yours,

J. M. SOMERNDIKE,

Secretary.

January 1934

B U L L E T I N

N O . 4

FOR THE INDIAN AND ALASKA MISSIONARIES

January, 1934

Dear Fellow Workers:

The Financial Outlook

The financial situation is not encouraging, as we had hoped to be able to report. Our income from churches, Sunday schools, and individuals for the first eight months of this year from April 1st to November 30th, showed a decrease of \$83,725.43 or 20.1% below the amount received during the corresponding period last year. The income from women's organizations showed a decrease of \$94,433.51 or 25.4% below the amount received during the corresponding period last year. The Board's income from other funds during the same period showed a decrease of 17%.

This does not present a very encouraging picture. It is earnestly hoped that much of the decrease in contributions will be recovered during the remaining months of the year, especially if economic recovery proceeds at a satisfactory pace. However, the situation is sufficiently serious to cause us considerable anxiety. The Board is carrying the deficit of \$1,140,000 which accumulated during previous years, caused largely by the decline in contributions. The reduction of \$1,000,000 in the spending budget for this year was decided upon by the Board because it was felt that the Board could not carry a heavier burden of debt than it already has.

It ought not to be impossible for the Church to meet a budget of \$2,400,000 for National Missions, in view of the widespread evidences of economic recovery. It represents a reduction of \$1,000,000 below the spending budget of last year; and when the income of the women's societies is deducted, it leaves approximately \$1,600,000 to be secured in contributions from all the churches, Sunday schools, and from individuals, and other sources.

It is to the raising of this sum during this current year that we must apply all the genius and resources that we can command. Every missionary should improve his contacts during the ensuing three months primarily in the direction of improving the Board's financial position. There are certain definite objectives that every missionary should keep clearly in mind:-

1. To see that his church (or churches) sends a contribution to the Board of National Missions, amounting to at least 42.5% of its total benevolences before March 31st, 1934.

2. To impress upon each church the fact that its first responsibility is to pay its National Missions quota.
3. To see that each Sunday school sends a contribution to the Board of National Missions before the close of the current year.
4. To secure contributions from benevolent individuals wherever possible.
5. To direct every dollar which can be made available for any project or phase of work, into the treasury of the Board.

Please encourage church and Sunday school treasurers to send remittances of whatever monies they have on hand, without delay, or to give the money to you to be remitted. The unwisdom of keeping money in the bank has been amply demonstrated by the thousands of bank failures during the past two or three years, in which several million dollars of missionary money have been completely lost.

Sunday School Calendars

We have a limited supply of Sunday School Calendars for 1934 on hand for free distribution. Each missionary is privileged to apply for them and every request will be honored until the entire supply we have on hand is exhausted.

"A Year With The Bible"

In connection with the adult program of our Church, the booklet, "A Year With The Bible", has been printed for 1934. We are unable to make donations of this booklet, but it can be obtained in quantities for \$3 per hundred. It is exceedingly useful in family worship and should be recommended in connection with your efforts to establish the family altar. Many ministers will doubtless be interested in it and would like to recommend it to the members of their congregations.

Our Presbyterian Church

Many people have expressed a desire for a course of lessons on the Presbyterian Church - its history, organization, and program. We are glad to announce that the General Council has prepared such a course which has just been issued by the Board of Christian Education in pamphlet form at 15¢ per copy. A sample copy is enclosed for your personal use. This book is not for free distribution but is intended for the use of young people and adult groups in our churches and young people's societies. We earnestly recommend the organization of study classes who will carefully study this book as a means of arriving at an intelligent understanding of the history of our Church and of the manner in which it is organized to carry forward its world-wide program of education and evangelization. Please read it carefully yourself and recommend its use as widely as possible. The General Council is urging the use of this course during the coming months in all our churches throughout the Country. It can be made especially useful in prayer meetings, adult classes, in Sunday school, in men's organizations, young people's societies, and in women's societies. A leaflet entitled, "Suggestions for Leaders", may be obtained from the Board of Christian Education.

Young People's Work

I have frequently been asked for material that will be helpful in promoting interest in the work among young people. Recently I have been reading a book entitled, "Better Meetings for the Young People's Society", which contains many helpful suggestions besides a wealth of material that can be used effectively in planning meetings and other activities. This book may be purchased for 75¢. I have a few copies which I shall be glad to lend to missionaries desiring to read it but not caring to purchase it.

Missionaries' Library

I am establishing a circulating library for the use of missionaries in Indian and Alaskan fields. By February 1st a list of the books included in this library will be sent to each missionary, from which he may select two books at a time, which he may desire to read. The books must be returned within thirty days. There will be no charge for this service - not even the postage.

Missionaries are invited to submit titles of books which they feel will be helpful to them and to their fellow-workers. Such books will be included in this "Missionaries' Library" as rapidly as funds permit.

"The Ruling Elder"

Many encouraging reports have been received from missionaries who have organized classes during this year for the study of "The Ruling Elder" by Dr. McAfee. An important feature of the program of work in each local field should be the persistent training of the people in the knowledge of the organization and work of the Presbyterian Church. We should devote more attention to the training of new converts, besides instructing the older members in such a manner as will make them intelligent and effective witnesses for Christ, among their own people, and deepen their interest in their local church. We will furnish copies of this book for such classes at half price (50¢ per copy postpaid). Orders should be sent to the New York office.

Statistics

In order to establish complete records at the Board's offices, concerning the churches, Sunday schools, and preaching stations under the care of each missionary, we have prepared a blank which is enclosed with this Bulletin, which each missionary is requested to fill out and return to the Secretary's office in New York. Strange as it may seem, the information called for on this blank is not now available at the Board's offices. Please cooperate in this effort by filling out and returning your report at the earliest convenient moment.

Leadership Training

The good news has just been received concerning the preparation of an elementary leadership training curriculum for use in mission fields where it has appeared to be impracticable to use the Standard leadership training text books. This course is to be regarded as "experimental" for a few months, and if reports from missionaries who use it are sufficiently encouraging, it will be given a recognized and permanent status in the leadership training curriculum of our own

and of other Churches. It is called "The 'A' Level Unit of the Leadership Training Curriculum". We are enclosing "Educational Bulletin No. 501" which describes this new unit. Please study it carefully. We are prepared to encourage missionaries in conducting leadership training classes by giving special discounts on text books needed, and by assisting in every possible way in meeting problems which appear to stand in the way of undertaking such work.

Revised Monthly Report Blank

Our supply of monthly report blanks being exhausted, a new edition has been printed and is now available. The following changes have been made:-

Columns eliminated - "Miles Traveled"
"Addresses and Sermons"
"Conferences with Local Workers"

In every other respect the blank is unchanged.

We deeply appreciate the cooperation of the missionaries in filling out their monthly reports so completely. We commend also the missionaries who have so conscientiously complied with our request for a monthly narrative to accompany the report. We depend upon such material for our publicity for the Indian and Alaskan work.

How Is Your Sunday School Progressing?

Is your Sunday School provided with necessary lesson helps and papers? Please do not resort to the use of lesson material published by other denominations or by undenominational publishers. We are definitely committed to the use of Presbyterian literature in our Sunday schools. If the cost is too high, we are prepared to provide your Sunday School with our Presbyterian lesson helps by making a grant to cover the deficiency between the amount of the bill and the amount your school can pay. There can be no good excuse for substituting other literature for our own high-grade Presbyterian lesson material in our Indian or Alaskan mission stations.

Is your Sunday School supplied with proper hymn books? Before you buy hymn books from other publishers, please write the headquarters office for suggestions concerning a suitable hymn book to meet your needs which bears the approval and imprint of our own denomination. We may be able to help somewhat in the matter of price.

Let us be loyal to our own Church and to our own denominational program, and train our congregations by using our own denominational literature.

Wishing you a Happy New Year and increasing satisfaction in your service,

Faithfully yours,

J. M. SOMERNDIKE

JMS: BH

Secretary

**Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America**

156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

TO THE PASTORS OF INDIAN AND ALASKA CHURCHES

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the new National Missions Manual which was adopted by the last General Assembly and which applies to our Indian and Alaska churches as well as to all other churches whose pastors receive their salary from the Board.

Please note the Standards described on pages 10, 11, and 12, which each church is expected to adopt by a vote of the congregation as its program of activities. This may be done at a regular Sunday service or in a special meeting of the congregation called for this purpose. After adopting these "Standards," you are required to fill out the "Application Blank" which is enclosed and send it to the Chairman of your Presbytery's Committee on National Missions. He will endorse it and mail it to the New York office.

Please note that the congregation has the privilege of requesting that they be exempted from introducing such parts of the program as they feel it is impossible for them to undertake this year. But such a request must be made in writing, specifying the points from which they wish to be exempted.

Please note that an every-member canvass must be made in each church, either this fall or in March, 1935, giving the members of the church an opportunity to make pledges for the amount they will contribute this year toward the support of the church and for benevolences. We realize that in many of our Indian and Alaska churches, it will be difficult to do this, but it is the feeling of the Board that every organized church regardless of race or color should make an annual canvass and that every member should be urged to give at least something toward the support of the local church work. This is an important part of their training in Christian life and service. No matter how small the amount, a beginning should be made with what they can afford to give, and a church treasurer should be elected to collect and disburse the money thus paid by the members. A blank is enclosed for listing the names of the subscribers.

The responsibility for carrying out the program will, of course, rest with the pastor and church officers. They must see that the various forms of activity in the "Standard" are introduced. The headquarters office will assist in every possible way by furnishing helps and such literature as may be desired upon request of each church.

These "Standards" are not a regulation introduced by the Board. They represent an action of our General Assembly and the Board is instructed by the General Assembly to apply them to every church.

Please be assured that the Board is disposed to carry out the Assembly's instructions sympathetically and helpfully, and with the purpose of stimulating all our churches to adopt a schedule of local activities which will enlarge their influence and efficiency besides enabling them to make a more effective impact upon their respective communities.

Please arrange for your congregational meeting (or meetings if you have more than one church under your care) at the earliest possible date, and fill out an "Application Blank" for each church. All "Application Blanks" must be received at the Board offices not later than December 1st.

Faithfully yours,
J. M. SOMERNDIKE

P.S. No "Application Blank" needs to be filled out for preaching stations which are not listed in the Minutes of the General Assembly as organized churches.

December 1935

BULLETIN #7

For Missionaries In Indian And Alaskan Fields

December 1935

Realizing Our Goals

We have been looking forward to the time when we could report that every one of our Indian and Alaska missions were including the Vacation Bible School in their yearly program. The past summer brought us very near to the realization of this goal. Only a few of our Indian mission stations failed to conduct Vacation Bible Schools last summer. In nearly every case where such a school was not held, the failure was due to circumstances which were beyond the control of the Missionary. It is encouraging to be able to report that the value of the Vacation Bible School is now fully recognized by all our Indian and Alaskan workers and that it is now regarded an indispensable feature of each mission station's program.

Training Church Officers and Other Adult Members

The next advance step in our program should be the development of plans for the training of church officers and other adult members. In each mission station a group of adult members could be formed, meeting in the church or the Missionary's manse, once a week, for the study of the Church, its history, its organization, its message, and its work. An excellent textbook entitled "Our Presbyterian Church, Its History, Organization and Program" could be used effectively with such groups. Five or six sessions of one hour each, with a corresponding number of hours of home study would suffice to complete such a course. Missionaries who will undertake this project during this winter will be supplied with the necessary number of copies of this book to give one to each member of the group free upon request to the Secretary at the Board headquarters. Other courses may be used, chosen from the "General Units" of the First Series Leadership Training Curriculum. We are enclosing a pamphlet containing a description of these simple courses. We earnestly advise careful study of this pamphlet. On pages 6 and 7 the "General Units" are described. The "Leader's Guide" for any of these courses which the Missionary may decide to teach may be obtained free of charge by writing to the Secretary.

The offer of Dr. McAfee's book, "The Ruling Elder" free to elders in our Indian churches is still open to all Missionaries who will agree to use it as a textbook for a group of church officers, meeting one hour weekly for six weeks.

Young People's Conferences

During the summer of 1935 encouraging advances were made in strengthening our young people's work in Indian fields. The following young people's conferences were conducted by Missionaries, assisted by leaders from the headquarters and field staff of the Board:

1. For Pima and Papago young people - at Tucson, Arizona, attendance 49 (new)
2. Choctaw Conference, Mt. Zion, Okla. attendance 62.
3. Cherokee Lake Oklahoma, attendance 170
4. More Indian young people at North Fork, California (new) attendance 31.
5. Seminole Conference, Welling, Okla. attendance 55.
6. Nez Perce Conference, Kamiah, Idaho (new) attendance 32
7. Young people at Dakota Bible Conference, attendance 66.
8. Young people of Alaska churches, at Sitka, attendance 58.

The Centennial exercises commemorating the beginning of missionary work among Dakota Indians were held in connection with the meeting of Minnesota Synod last June with a large attendance.

Our Indian station at Taholah, Washington, has been included in a parish area which will extend our work into all the Quineault villages in the Olympic Peninsula with several white Sunday Schools and preaching stations. Rev. Mackenzie Murray, a graduate of Princeton, class of 1935, has been placed in charge of this project.

Rev. Perry Ides, Missionary at Neah Bay, Washington, is being granted a disability pension on account of approaching blindness. Rev. W. S. Thorndike is being appointed to take his place serving also the Clallam Bay (White) Church and with responsibility for the care and development of a number of mission Sunday Schools and preaching stations to be included in a parish area to be known as the Olympic Parish.

The Indian church at Arapahoe, Wyoming, whose membership has dwindled to less than ten, will be merged with a white church of sixty members which has been organized in that reservation to serve the increasing number of white people who have settled there.

Our Choctaw work is making better progress than has been seen in many years under our new policy of employing two fully trained seminary graduates of Choctaw mixed blood. To each of these men we have assigned the responsibility for eight Indian churches among which they itinerate with a regular schedule of preaching services in English in addition to the services held by the native Missionaries in the Choctaw language. They are responsible also for the development of the Sunday Schools, young people's societies and other forms of church activity.

The Indian work at Bishop, California, is being continued since the death of Mr. Price, under the care of Rev. Earl Hilles, pastor of the white church at Bishop, assisted by Miss Mabel Hillis appointed with approval of the

Presbytery's Committee, who will be responsible for pastoral visitation. Sunday School and young people's work and conducting Bible classes for children and adults during the week.

The Camp meetings of the Papagoes at Sells, Arizona and the Pimas at Salt River were full of encouragement to the Missionaries and to the Indian congregations. Rev. George Walker has given us the following report of these meetings:-

"Our fall camp meeting season is finished and with the end of it there comes to me unspeakable joy for what has been accomplished. The Papagoes held their meetings in September at Sells, sixty miles west of Tucson. A large number of Pimas journeyed there to help with the speaking, the singing and to enjoy the splendid preaching by Esau Joseph, a young Pima Indian, trained in the Tucson Indian Training School and the Cook Bible School in Phoenix.

Over 100 Indians took a stand for Christ, some of whom have already joined the Church. A thrilling incident took place when a woman was carried in a bed to the front of the tabernacle, where she listened to the preaching. She was then carried home. Later three elders called on her, each one reading the Bible to her, preaching and praying over her with the result that she got up and WALKED to the next meeting and to all those that followed. At the close of the meetings she was much improved and continued able to get about.

The Communion service on Sunday according to Mrs. Dirk Lay was an experience she will never forget.

The Camp Meeting at Salt River was the greatest I have ever seen. The size of the congregations was immense. Dozens of Papagoes from 150 to 200 miles south came. Apaches (old-time enemies of the Pimas and Papagoes) came from 125 to 165 miles north of us, while choirs and personal workers from a score of villages swelled the total attendance to about 1,500 or more.

The singing was beautiful - old gospel hymns in the Pima and Papago and Apache, with anthems and hymns in English. One morning I awoke to hear the soft melodious singing of a quartet coming from somewhere among the hundreds of early morning camp fires - "The Old Rugged Cross."

Mr. Joseph's sermons three times a day were strong and to the point. There had been a great amount of prayer, preparation and as a consequence hundreds came forward at the invitations, either for the first time or for reconsecration. Some were baptized during the meetings; others will be enrolled later.

It was a heart-touching experience to look on as they streamed up the aisles to surrender to the Lord. Convictions and conversions were taking place by the score before one's eyes in a scene never to be forgotten."

At Neah Bay, Washington, a new church building has just been completed costing nearly \$4,000. The funds for the erection of this building were provided by a special gift of the Men's Bible Class of the First Presbyterian Church of Seattle, Washington, supplemented by a comparatively small grant from the Board. The building was supervised by Mr. Gene Gould a member of our Board who resides in Seattle, and Dr. Thomson, the Synod's Executive.

Mrs. Bertha Allen, who for many years has carried forward effective work among Indians in the government hospital and school at Puyallup, Washington, has retired from active service under the General Assembly's age retirement rule. This important work will be continued under the supervision of Miss Idella Ferguson who is being transferred from Neah Bay, where she has labored with outstanding efficiency.

Rev. James Dickson has been appointed in charge of Spalding and North Fork Churches in the Nez Perce field in place of Rev. Daniel Scott.

Rev. Horace Williams, for many years a Missionary among Pima Indians, has retired from active service having passed his seventieth birthday.

New Missionaries appointed for Pima and Papago fields to fill vacancies caused by death and resignations, are:

Gilbert Davis, at Fort McDowell, succeeding Wilson Walker, deceased.

Luke Thompson, at Gila Crossing, succeeding Csif Clarke, resigned.

Pancho Pablo, at Sells and Topowa, succeeding William Peters, resigned.

Mrs. Wilson Walker, for religious education work among Pimas, succeeding Miss Swanette Barth, who is granted a year's leave of absence.

Changes in personnel in the Dakota field:-

Jesse Wakeman, assigned to Wakpacika Church, Montana

Frank Kills Right, assigned to Hawk Wing, Eagle Nest and Canumsapa Churches, South Dakota

Hazen Dumarce, assigned to Mnisda, Canipa & Box Elder Churches, Montana.

Winfred De Coteau, assigned to Cansutaipa and Little Porcupine Churches, South Dakota.

Jos. Two Eagles, assigned to Makasan and Slim Buttes Churches, South Dakota

Earnest Spotted Elk, assigned to Westminster, Memorial and Makezita churches.

Roger Davis, who has been laboring as a native Missionary assisting Rev. Chas. Bysegger at Chin Lee, Arizona, has been assigned temporarily to Indian Wells, during the absence of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson.

A Good Year at Leupp

"As usual the last month of school is crowded with all sorts of activities. We kept our program in every detail up to the last day. We had to make some changes to cooperate with the school programs, but we were given our full time.

Graduation exercises were held in the auditorium in which I had my part. The baccalaureate service was held in the church with a large attendance. The regular memorial program given by Mrs. Locker and her Indian and white pupils created much interest and support. Our annual Sunday school picnic for employees and their children gave us all a good time."

A. K. Locker

New Converts at Jemez Pueblo

"Three more conversions in Jemez! They make our total of fourteen church members. I started with only six. I think the Indians are seeing things in a different angle. I have discarded the old crowd who came just for candies. An old couple, who never stepped inside the church before, are now coming both day and night. The man is a grand-son of the governor who signed the papers which gave us the grant of land in the pueblo. I have visited their farms; gave garden seeds and alfalfa seeds. And if the Lord is with us, I am planning to send a young couple to our Indian Training School in Arizona. They have lived in California for 13 years and are good personal workers. A little training would make them good lay workers. The first in New Mexico perhaps."

M. B. S. Legare

Vacation Bible Schools Among Nez Perces

"I have held three Vacation Bible Schools this month. There were quite a number of children and young people at North Fork but it was hard to get them to attend regularly or to do much work when they did come. They seemed to have one interest and that was baseball. They had a base ball game every afternoon while I was there and practice every evening until dark. After dark they were always glad to come to church for a song service. I was surprised at the number who came and, knowing their habits and lack of interest in the church, their choice of songs. They preferred to sing hymns and that gave me a good opportunity to teach some things that they might not have listened to otherwise.

Kamiah Second had the largest school. Three of the local girls were assistant teachers and were certainly thrilled over the privilege.

On June first and second, the North Fork Church celebrated their fiftieth anniversary. The church had been redecorated for the occasion and looked very nice. Friends came from the other Nez Perce Churches and helped."

Vivian Purves

Rev. Howard Clark conducted the second session of his Navajo Bible Training school, at Flagstaff, Arizona in July. Missionaries Bysegger, Cropp and Bovee attended besides ten Indians. Mr. Clark was assisted by Miss Faye Edgerton and Mr. Ortega. Dr. Harold Laird of Wilmington, Delaware whose church is supporting this project was present and delivered several helpful addresses.

Revival Services on Pima Reservation

"You will see by my statistical report that we held preaching revival services every night at Lower Santan and Blackwater with a total attendance for the nineteen week night meetings of 2353 or an average of 123.7 plus per meeting. We have been holding preaching revival services every night since the 31st of March and though we have had 118 in the shade and some very hot nights the interest has not diminished. At the closing meeting at Blackwater we had 284 present and nineteen took a stand for Christ. We have taken 67 in on confession since April first and have about that many more prospects in view now. I hope and pray to be able to bring 125 in on confession in this my twenty-fifth year."

Dirk Lay

Vacation Bible School at Fort McDowell

"Because of a funeral which we were called upon to conduct on our arrival, several of the mothers were present for the opening of our first session and stayed through that day. These mothers manifested a great interest from the start. The second day they appeared again. We therefore formed a class for them and they took an interest in all the work of the mornings. They did the memory work which we had for the children and more than the children did, for they took verses or references home and came back with the verses memorized the following morning. They were interested in the sewing which the girls did and several of these mothers made pot holders and other articles. They played the children's games, some of them with babies in their arms. We felt sure that this school did a half dozen mothers a lot of good. We had school on Saturday morning with a full attendance for that day. The closing program was held Sunday night and brought out a fine attendance. We used the stereopticon in connection with this program."

D. Clarence Burd.

Conference of Pima Workers Sets Goals for the Year.

You will be interested to know that we had a very interesting and profitable workers conference here in Sacaton. We set the following goals, the Maricopa church to receive nine members on confession, Gila Crossing thirty-three, Blackwater forty, Vah Ki sixty and Pima First one hundred which makes a total of two hundred and forty-two for my field for this church year. Revival Meetings to be held at Gila Crossing August 18 - September 1 inclusive, September 19-22 all of our choirs to go to the Papago Camp-meeting to help the Papagos. On October fifth all my workers are to have a sermon they have written in my hands and every month thereafter each one is to send me a written sermon and a written prayer. October 10-13 is the Pima Camp-meeting. October sixth rally day in all our churches. October 20 to November 3 inclusive a revival is to be held in the Maricopa church. Quarterly workers conference will be held at Sacaton, November 5th. November 10-24 revival in the Co-op village. December 1-15 revival at Stotonic. January first 1936 to be a great consecration meeting of all Christians on my field in the Sacaton Church. The speakers to be Couse, Miguel and Antonio in the morning and Esau in the evening. (You will be glad to know that the Vah Ki church is paying Esau sixty dollars on the last day of each month). The Pima First revival to start the night of January first and to continue through the whole month. February fifth the quarterly workers conference at Sacaton. February ninth to twenty-third Blackwater revival. Vah Ki revival March 8-22. April 12-26 Lower Santan revival, May 3-10 Snaketown revival. Santan revival May 24 - June 7. We hope to plan the rest of the year up to September first 1936 at our next quarterly workers' conference. Each one of my workers agreed to have the services in his church planned at least one week in advance. If there is one thing an Indian or native preacher needs, it is the idea that services must be planned well in advance and sermons prepared and sometimes written.

Dirk Lay

Cook Bible School Opening Under Mr. Burd's Direction.

"Our Bible School classes opened on October first. So far we have enrolled five regular, one special and five government school students. We are still expecting others to arrive.

During this school year my wife and I are to have charge of the religious instruction classes in the day schools of Gila Crossing and Maricopa each Wednesday afternoon, going over to Gila Crossing at one o'clock for one hour and then on to Maricopa for the three o'clock hour. These classes are nicely under way with an enrollment of 80. We look upon this work as a laboratory for those of our Cook Bible School students who may be interested in child study and religious education.

By using both our own car and the new Ford station wagon, we are able to get thirteen people over to the Parker Camp meeting for the week ending October sixth. Our group included the Maricopa male quartette. The combined talent of the Bible School people and the Maricopa quartette furnished twelve special musical numbers during the Mojave Camp Meeting."

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The death of five of our Indian and Alaskan Missionaries during the past few months, has been a loss indeed both to the congregations they served so faithfully and to the progress of our work in the fields they served.

Rev. W. N. Price - who labored among the Piute Indians at Bishop, California, over a long period of years, died on July 10th of cancer, after a protracted illness. He was a very faithful and earnest missionary. With the assistance of Mrs. Price, he gave himself under very serious handicaps and difficulties to a successful ministry covering four stations in the Owens Valley area.

Rev. Wilson Walker - who served for eighteen years with outstanding success at Fort McDowell, Arizona, among the Apaches, died of tuberculosis on July 31st. Mr. Walker was one of our most efficient Indian workers in that important field.

Rev. Dwight Heminger - in charge of our Sioux Indian churches: Cansutaipa and Little Porcupine - died on August 30th. Mr. Heminger's family accepted Christianity under the ministry of Dr. Williamson in the earliest years of the history of mission work in the Sioux country. His brother is one of our successful pastors in South Dakota. He was ill for almost a year with tuberculosis, but his devotion to the work impelled him to continue in active service within a few days of his death. It will be difficult to find a qualified man to take his place in the hearts and affections of the people.

Rev. H. R. Falconer - who has served as a missionary in Alaska for upwards of thirty years, died of a heart attack on July 19th. He went to Alaska as a layman but was so deeply interested in the mission work there that he was ordained as an elder and commissioned by the Board of Home Missions to serve as a lay missionary in 1903. He was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1919 and has served in several of our Alaska churches continuously since that time. He was accompanying the Christian Fellowship tour on their annual visit to mission stations in Alaska when he succumbed to a heart attack on the boat.

Rev. E. L. Winterberger - who has served as a pastor of the church in Anchorage and chairman of the Committee on National Missions in Yukon Presbytery. Mr. Winterberger resigned in September because of ill health, returning to Eugene, Oregon for medical treatment. About a week after his arrival in Eugene he was stricken and passed away on October 23, after an illness of only a few days.

ALASKA NOTES

Rev. Robert G. Hall, graduate of Chicago Seminary, 1935, has been appointed to Craig and Klawook in place of Mr. Falconer.

Rev. George Beck, for over forty years a missionary in Alaska retires from active service December 1st. His place will be filled by Rev. Donald Christiansen, Chicago Seminary graduate.

Anchorage church officials have notified us that they propose to become self-supporting under a new pastor.

Good News from Skagway.

We are receiving very encouraging news concerning the work of Mr. and Mrs. Klerekoper at Skagway. At a recent service, Mr. Klerekoper awarded prizes to more than twenty children in the Sunday School who had six years of faithful attendance without missing a Sunday. The attendance at the regular services has increased, and Mrs. Klerekoper has been elected the President of the Women's Club of the city. A strong young people's society has been organized, and they had the largest delegation at the young people's conference at Sitka which was held again this year. All the organizations of the church are functioning well.

A few months ago, Mr. Klerekoper had the pleasure of uniting in marriage Rev. Ralph K. Wheeler, who is in charge of our mission station at Haines, and Miss Ruth Unangst, a young lady on the staff of Haines House. I quote the following interesting incidents from a recent letter from Mr. Klerekoper:-

"We had a very pleasant telegram from our classmate, Rev. Ralph K. Wheeler of Haines, asking us to come down and tie the knot between a young lady of the Haines House staff and himself. The boat belonging to the government, the 'J-44,' a ship of about 60 feet long came up from Haines for us. We knew there was quite a wind blowing but did not realize the effect it would have on the water. The boat rolled and pitched all the sixteen miles between here and Haines. We were sitting in the back cabin watching the coffee pot move around the wire railing that kept it on the stove. Occasionally, our boat would forget its dignity and go under the waves instead of over them, and the back hatch permitted water to come in by the pailful. Suffice it to say our breakfasts that morning served a double purpose - to feed ourselves and the fishes.

"Undoubtedly the curse of the Alaska Indian is drink", he continues, "They, in many respects, have much more control of their feelings than do the Whites, but when it comes to liquor, they do not know what control means. I do not like to be filling

these reports every month with stories about liquor, but they seem to have been connected with many of our experiences. For example, we were invited to the birthday party of an Indian man who lives near our place. Our host had to be put to bed before we got there as he was not in condition to meet us. The old lady who was at the home helping to do the dishes got drunk and broke up the party by locking herself in a room with our host, determined that she would marry him.

We kept one of the little girls, who has been living at this home over at our house that night until things should quiet down. Mrs. Klerekoper found the smallest pair of pajamas she could and pinned them up to fit her. In the morning, the little girl, about six years of age, had her first experience in a bath tub - I mean a real, honest-to-goodness bath tub with hot and cold running water. What a lot of fun she had! We didn't mind mopping up the floor after her, for we knew that she had a great experience. My study wall let in the words of the chorus she was singing as Mrs. Klerekoper helped her dry herself.

'In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,
Till my raptured soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.'

I prayed then and there that her glory would always be in that Cross, and that the glory might be her own until her rest beyond the river. It made us sad to think that such a nice little girl should have to be brought up where her relatives and friends were so often drunk. As all the native children and grown-ups seem to do, she told stories about other little children. One, particularly, was about a little friend who, she said, kept coming to her house to steal things. She could not produce any satisfactory evidence of the guilt of her friend, so I said, 'How do you know she did it? Maybe I did it! She seemed quite shocked at that idea and replied quickly, 'Oh, you couldn't. You belong to God.' But she was so excited after her bath that she could not wait to talk much, or even to eat her breakfast, but ran home to tell her grandmother all about it."

Mr. Beck Planning to Retire.

Mr. Beck who has served fields in southeastern Alaska for nearly forty years, and who for the past few years has been doing an outstanding work at Ketchikan, will retire this year. Although Mr. Beck has not yet reached the age of seventy, he feels so keenly the loss of Mrs. Beck who was such a helpmate to him, and his inability to carry on without her, that he desires to withdraw in order that a younger man and wife may carry on the work in the same manner in which he and Mrs. Beck have carried on so faithfully over a long period of years.

Mr. Beck is known and loved throughout southeastern Alaska for his Christian devotion, and is honored for the faithfulness with which he has labored in establishing the church under his care on a good foundation. His influence in the community will remain as an enduring monument to his devoted life and work.

New Pastor for Cordova.

Mr. Bingle who has been serving successfully at Cordova for several years desired to be transferred permanently to the new project in the Matanuska Valley. This has made it necessary for us to secure his successor for the Cordova Church. He has been found in the person of Rev. William A. McAdoo, a graduate of Princeton, Class of 1934, who with his young wife has been serving the Church in Deming, New Mexico for the past year. We are expecting great things in the advancement of the work at Cordova under Mr. McAdoo's ministry.

Percy Ipalook Goes to Wainwright.

Percy Ipalook, a convert of our work at Barrow, who went to Dubuque to prepare for Christian work, and who has served for the past year at Wales, has been transferred, at the request of Dr. Greist, to Wainwright, about 100 miles south of Point Barrow where we have a flourishing mission with a large Sunday School and a substantial church membership. We are planning, at the earliest possible moment, to build a church at Wainwright, but funds for this purpose are not yet available.

Miss Stauffer Takes Charge at Wales

Miss Stauffer, who was sent to Point Barrow a year ago as a nurse in the hospital has been transferred to Wales to take the place of Percy Ipalook. Miss Stauffer is qualified in every way to take care of the situation at Wales. Her medical knowledge and her ability as a nurse will enable her to render a larger ministry to those people than her predecessors have been able to do.

St. Lawrence Island News

We are receiving very encouraging reports from Miss Ann Bannan with reference to the re-establishment of our work on St. Lawrence Island under her leadership. Plans are being made by the government to erect a new school building at Gambell where Miss Bannan makes her headquarters. In view of the fact that the government has been using our mission property for a school for many years without any rental charge, the new building when it is erected will be made available for church, Sunday School, and other religious activities.

New Church for Sitka Natives

Our congregation at Sitka is looking forward to the building of a new church. Special efforts are being made to raise as much money as possible among members of the congregation and throughout the community. Since we

have the only Protestant Church in Sitka which, on account of the Sheldon Jackson School, is one of the most strategic points in Alaska, widespread interest has been developed in this new church-building project.

More Native Workers

At the request of the Alaska Native Brotherhood, we are planning, this year to make larger use of native workers, especially in some of our smaller missions in southeastern Alaska. Gibson Young, Andrew Wanamaker, George Betts, and Samuel Johnson will be the native workers for this new year in addition to the native assistant on our missionary boat, "The Princeton."

Matanuska Valley Project.

Mr. Bingle reports with reference to the work at Matanuska Valley that he has five mission stations under his care in ministering to the new settlers who have been moved into that area under the government rehabilitation project. We have provided Mr. Bingle with a car to facilitate his itinerations, both for preaching and for pastoral work. We have secured a residence for Mr. Bingle and his family. In four of the localities where mission stations have been established, we are able to use the schoolhouse which has been erected, but in one locality it was necessary for us to erect a house for services of worship and Sunday School. This we were able to do at an expense of only \$500. Mr. Bingle did much of the work himself with the assistance of his wife and members of the colony.

Mr. Bingle is enthusiastic about the prospects for the permanence of this project. While some of the new settlers were dissatisfied at the beginning, the progress that has been made in erecting homes and providing comfortable living facilities has been so rapid and so efficient during the past two months that they are approaching the winter season feeling better satisfied and with their fears dispelled.

The Lutheran Church has a small mission in this area, but the majority of the settlers, and the government officials, are very desirous that our Church shall go forward with this work, and they are greatly pleased with the type of ministry which Mr. Bingle is able to give them because of his experience in Cordova where he established the work in a very successful way.

January 1936

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

January
23rd
1936

Dear Fellow-Worker:

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR MISSIONS

We are enclosing herewith material relative to the World Day of Prayer for Missions, the observance of which we hope you will promote as widely as possible on your field. If you find that the material which has been prepared by the Committee in charge of this program, is not specifically adaptable to the fields under your care, may I suggest that you prepare a program of your own for this day (February 28th) which will be universally observed as the World Day of Prayer for Missions, and urge that it be used in every church and mission Sunday school point under your care? Additional copies of the printed material may be obtained without charge and will be forwarded to you immediately upon request.

A mimeographed form of report is enclosed, which we would like to have filled out by each missionary, giving information which can be used in various channels of missionary publicity.

Counting upon your cooperation, and with best wishes,
I am

Faithfully yours,

J. M. SOMERNDIKE

Secretary.

JMS: BH

May 1936

Alaska Presbytery

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

May 6, 1936

TO THE ALASKA MISSIONARIES
AND CHURCHES

Dear Fellow-Worker:

While I was deeply disappointed because circumstances interfered with my visit to the April meeting of the Alaska Presbytery, it was a source of great satisfaction to have such implicit confidence in the loyalty and consecration of our Alaska missionaries that I knew that all the interests of our work would receive consideration on the part of the Presbytery, and that all the actions would reflect the good judgment and the spirit of cooperation which have always characterized your actions in the past.

I have just finished reading the report of Mr. Pederson in behalf of the Committee on National Missions, and I have been greatly cheered and encouraged as I have noted the splendid progress which we have made during the past twelve months in all our Alaska fields. We have cause for rejoicing, but especially for thanksgiving to God, for the glory is not ours but His.

The churches have grown in membership and in all their work they have demonstrated a growing strength in carrying forward the work of the Kingdom locally in an efficient way. We are especially pleased with the care that has been given to the upkeep of the church properties, the improvements that have been made, in some cases without assistance from the Board, and the increasing devotion of the members to the work of the church. Our entire work for the past year has shown unprecedented initiative, resourcefulness and energy on the part of the leaders and members of all the churches and mission stations.

We have been especially pleased with the high type of leadership that has been manifested by our native workers. The excellent results that are being obtained by these workers have demonstrated the value of native leadership and they have served to strengthen us in our policy of developing more native leaders who will take a full course of training for the gospel ministry, looking forward to the day when our Alaska native churches can be supplied with a thoroughly trained leadership from the ranks of our Alaska native Christians. This is looking a long way ahead, but it is a goal toward which we should strive, and we should be on the alert to recognize special talents with which the Holy Spirit has endued certain young men who, under providential guidance, may be encouraged to hear the call to the gospel ministry, and who will have the courage and persistence to make full preparation for it.

The repairs to the various properties requested by action of the Presbytery will be given careful consideration, and it is my earnest hope, and indeed my expectation, that all of these items upon which the Presbytery took action will be cared for. I am putting forth special efforts to obtain the necessary financial provision for these needs at once so that the repairs can be made during this summer.

The budget for salaries of the missionaries and other items as adopted by the Presbytery will be met in full I trust. I have not yet received the appropriation for Alaska work for the coming year since the Budget Committee has not yet completed its work, but I do not anticipate any reductions. On the contrary, I am hoping that there will be sufficient increase to enable us to meet the request of the Presbytery for at least some increase in the salaries of the native workers.

There are certain recommendations in Mr. Pederson's report which I feel that it is important that we should take very seriously, uniting our efforts to put them into effect during this year:-

1. "That each National Missions Church of our Presbytery be called on to increase her local participation in the support of her minister, and that Christian Stewardship and systematic giving be emphasized again this year."

The Board is in hearty agreement with the spirit and purpose of this recommendation: first, because we believe that all of our Alaska missionaries should have a larger financial support, their salaries being increased; and also because we are fully conscious of the fact that no church, whether in Alaska or among Indians or among any other type of population, can grow and prosper without the full exercise of the gospel principle of sacrifice and self-denial for the sake of the Kingdom of our Lord. All the necessary safeguards can be set up at headquarters to prevent the missionary from experiencing any reduction in his income because of the failure of his church to pay what they promised toward his support, and for that reason the Board feels that every missionary should tactfully and persistently urge the members of his congregation to make an annual, monthly or weekly pledge toward the support of the church, no matter how small that pledge may necessarily be, and to regard it as a sacred obligation to pay the amount they have pledged regularly in weekly installments. Training in Christian discipleship is the first essential to growth in Christian grace, and even though some of the members may feel that the missionary is laying too much emphasis upon giving, we should not hesitate on that account to impress upon the members constantly the supreme importance of cultivating the grace of giving. Christianity cannot mean much to the Christian who fails to practice the spirit of self-denial and self-sacrifice for the extension of the cause of Christ. Our people in the Alaska churches ought to be told quite frankly that having had so much done for them, they are expected to do more and more in the way of self-support, so that the aid which they have received can be made available to take the gospel message to others who have not yet heard it. Let us resolve that this year we will make an every-member canvass in every church, urging everyone to pledge at least something, and then set up a system in the church that will help the people to pay their pledges in weekly installments through the year, carefully following up those who have made their pledges, in order to secure the payment of them. This should be done by a committee consisting of officers of the church and others who will assume this special responsibility of gathering "the tithes and offerings" of the people.

2. "That each missionary make more careful study of and application to his field of the 'Standards Applicable to All Aided Churches' which are a part of the annual application of the Church for National Missions Aid."

We have been very much pleased with the spirit of cooperation of our Alaska churches in filling out the application which the Board now requires of

every church whose pastor is aided in the matter of salary, either wholly or in part by the Board. New blanks will be sent to each missionary in the early fall, and we are asking every missionary to set aside either the last Sunday of September or the first Sunday of October for the consideration of the program of the Church as set forth in the "Application for Aid." The service on the Sunday which you designate, in September or October, should be in the nature of a congregational meeting, but it will be distinctly a spiritual exercise and not for the transaction of business. It should be devoted to the consideration of our denominational program as set forth in the application blank. This program should be carefully explained to the congregation. They should be reminded of the objectives in this program to which they have not yet attained, and they should be urged to vote whole-heartedly to cooperate with the Board and with the missionary in putting forth their best efforts during this year to reach the specified goals. We are asking each missionary to keep this in mind as it is of special importance.

3. "That the churches conducting Vacation Bible Schools and Week Day Bible Schools be heartily commended, and that during the coming year each church in the Presbytery have both Vacation Bible and Week Day Bible Schools; furthermore that the missionaries conduct additional Vacation Bible Schools wherever openings can be made, and that the Board's treasury be strengthened through Vacation Bible School offerings whenever possible."

We are earnestly hoping that we shall be able to report at the end of this year that a Vacation Bible School was conducted in every one of our Alaska churches and mission outposts. This is not an impossible goal. IT CAN BE DONE. The fact that we almost reached this goal last year is a clear indication of its practicability. It is important that plans should be made at once for these Vacation Bible Schools; and having made the plans and fixed the definite dates, I earnestly beg you to let nothing interfere with carrying them through to successful completion. Let us make every Vacation Bible School this year cover a period of at least ten teaching days. Sessions, of course, continue for three hours in the mornings only. It may be advisable, where the missionary is under pressure of time, to hold a Vacation Bible School in one locality in the morning, and at an out-station each afternoon, thus having two Vacation Bible Schools within a given two weeks, each school running for the full two weeks. Literature is available for leaders of Vacation Bible Schools and will be sent free upon request to the headquarters office.

We are especially interested in the development of week day Bible instruction. It should easily be possible, except where unusual circumstances prevail, for the missionary to have a session during the week with the children who are enrolled in the Sunday school, inviting of course all the children in the community, not confining it simply to the children of the church. If it is not convenient to conduct such a class in the church after school hours, we should approach the public school teacher and canvass the possibilities of holding these classes immediately after the school session on a week day when it can conveniently be arranged, but setting up a regular schedule for this period in the public school throughout the entire school term. We are conscious of the fact that the Sunday school cannot possibly furnish all the religious instruction that the children should have. Its sessions are too short and infrequent. We are making remarkable progress in the States in this matter of week day Bible instruction and we are very earnestly hoping that the missionaries in Alaska will, this year, take a very decided advance step in the development of this phase of our program.

4. "That the report of Presbytery's Committee on United Promotion be considered, namely that The Synodical Council, Jan 10/36 accepted \$36,608 as its benevolence quota for the year 1936-37 and that the Council voted to allocate the additional amount to the Presbyteries proportionately. The apportionment for the Presbytery of Alaska for the year beginning April 1, 1936 is \$1127."

In the every-member canvass that is made for the support of the local church, it should be kept in mind that every such canvass should include pledges for the missionary work of our whole denomination. Each church should have a special benevolence treasurer who should be charged with the responsibility of gathering the contributions that are made for the missionary and benevolent causes approved by our General Assembly, and who should feel a sense of responsibility to bring the congregation up to the full quota of benevolences that is assigned to it. It would be exceedingly gratifying if at the end of this year we could report that every church had fully met its benevolence quota. We are counting upon the whole-hearted support of every missionary in bringing this to pass.

5. "That Leadership Training Classes be made a goal in each church of the Presbytery, and that as many as possible of the young people in these classes be given an opportunity to attend the Young People's Conference at Sitka."

In the field of leadership training, we have definitely set up a goal to report at least one leadership training class in every one of our Alaska churches this year. This also is a thoroughly practicable goal. Second only to training in Christian discipleship is the necessity for training for service in the local church through its various organizations. The new First and Second Series Leadership Training Curriculum provide courses which are practicable among the most backward types of population and we can no longer advance the excuse that "leadership training courses are not practicable because they are too difficult." There is a wide range of selection that can be made by the missionary among the various simple courses that have been made available, and the headquarters office is prepared to cooperate with every missionary by furnishing textbooks for courses where textbooks are needed and by furnishing the leader's material for him in conducting the course. Please bear in mind that no difficult examinations are now necessary, upon the completion of a course, and that each course requires only five sessions of class work of one hour each, and five hours of home study. We shall have special pride in crediting every one of our Alaska churches with having conducted a leadership training class this year, and this should be done by the minister.

We are very anxious that the young people's conference this year shall be even more successful than the conference held last year. So far as possible, we would like every church to put forth special efforts to send at least one delegate to this conference. We owe this to the rising generation in our churches and Sunday schools as a part of their training toward an intelligent understanding of the Church and its work, and in order to enable them to find their places in its service. Since our Board and the Board of Christian Education are aiding generously in the expenses, the amount required for each delegate will be comparatively small, and under little pressure on the part of the missionary, the local congregation should provide this necessary expense for as many delegates as they can send. Of course the delegates should be carefully selected and we should be particular not to accept any who are under fifteen or over thirty years of age. We must keep this distinctly a young people's conference where they can express themselves without the embarrassment of the presence of the adult members of the church.

FINALLY, we are making a special request now that every one of our Alaska Sunday schools observe Children's Day and take an offering for the Board of National Missions. We feel that we are justified in asking this cooperation on the part of every one of our Alaska churches. We are shipping to each church a supply of Children's Day programs, collection envelopes, and other material. If it is not convenient to hold the Children's Day service on the second Sunday of June, some other date which may be more convenient may be assigned for the observance of this festival, but whatever day may be selected the Board will expect that every church will arrange for a joint church and Sunday school service in which the usual sermon will be omitted and the Children's Day program will take the place of the regular period of church worship. The collection envelopes should be distributed the first Sunday after they are received, with instructions to have them brought back to the church on Children's Day, and the offerings thus received should be remitted to the Board.

We earnestly hope that you will find our printed program satisfactory, but if for any reason it does not seem to meet the need of any particular field, we are asking the missionary in that field to prepare a program of his own, selecting hymns which are familiar to the people; but in all cases, whether the program is used or not, we shall expect the Sunday school to take an offering for the missionary work of the Board.

We are looking for the whole-hearted cooperation of every one of our Alaska churches in the matter of observance of Children's Day and the remitting of an offering to the Board. Please remember that the Children's Day offering will be applied and credited toward the benevolence quota assigned to each church for this year.

With gratitude to God, and in humble recognition of His blessing, we go forward together into this new Church year resolved that our leadership shall be still more faithful and efficient, and uniting our prayers for the manifestation of the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit as we strive earnestly to fulfill in our life and work the expectations of our Lord and Master concerning those who serve Him.

With every good wish, I am

Faithfully yours,

J. M. SOMERNDIKE,

Secretary

July 1936

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

July 20th, 1936.

Dear Fellow-Worker:-

My attention has been called to a pamphlet, entitled, "The Philippines' Literacy Method" by Dr. Frank C. Laubach. It tells the story of a literacy movement conducted by Dr. Laubach, who is one of the most successful missionaries of the American Board in the Philippine Islands. He is a Princeton alumnus, and mutual friends who were his classmates at Princeton have been telling me about his descriptions of the unique and original method which he devised to teach illiterate people to read and write their own language in a simple but effective way. Dr. Laubach claims that he can teach an illiterate person to read and write his own language in from one to three days by the method which he has described in the enclosed pamphlet.

His plan seemed to me to be capable of adaptation to our Indian work. Where the missionary knows the native language, it seems to me that he would be greatly advantaged in his work by giving this method a trial. The Indians could be gathered together in groups, either in a building or in the open air. If they can be taught to read their own language by this quick method, they will appreciate the Scriptures that have been translated into their language; and this ought to be a very valuable aid in speeding our work of evangelization.

Where the missionary is not familiar with the native Indian language, this plan could be used by one of the Indian converts, who would be glad, I am sure, to use this method of teaching his fellow Indians how to read and write their own language.

I shall greatly appreciate your reaction to this suggestion.

Faithfully yours,

J. M. SOMERNDIKE

JMS:BH

Secretary.

August 1936

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

August 21, 1936

TO THE MISSIONARIES IN CHARGE OF INDIAN AND ALASKAN CHURCHES

Dear Brethren:

1. I am enclosing for your information a statement concerning the action of the last General Assembly relative to the "Manual for National Missions Churches." This statement includes an action taken by the Board at its meeting following the action by the General Assembly indicating the effect of this action upon the churches receiving aid from National Missions Fund.

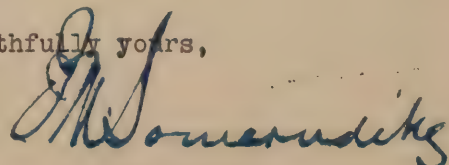
2. In harmony with the Board's policy, all churches whose ministers receive part or all of their salary from the Board are required to fill out the "Application for Aid" blank at the beginning of each budget year. We are enclosing herewith two copies of the "Application for Aid," both of which should be filled out, after you have presented to the congregation the program to which they are requested to subscribe, and in the carrying out of which they are expected to cooperate with you as their minister. One copy should be retained for reference and the other copy should be mailed to the Chairman of your Presbyterial Committee on National Missions, with the request that he sign it and forward it to the undersigned at the New York headquarters office.

It is important that the subscription blank be filled out and enclosed with the "Application for Aid." It is equally important that the "Application" be accompanied by the "Program for the Year" outlining the objectives which the congregation will strive to attain during the year in their plans for the development of the local work.

This "Application for Aid" should be in the hands of the Secretary at the New York office not later than October 1st. It is therefore recommended that this matter shall be presented by the missionary pastor of each church, to his congregation, on the third or fourth Sunday in September, or at a congregational meeting held for this purpose on a week night prior to October 1st.

If additional copies of the blanks are requested, they will be furnished promptly upon request of the missionary in charge.

Faithfully yours,



Secretary

JMS:PDS

TO OUR ALASKA MISSIONARIES

Enclosed is a copy of a report which appeared in last week's issue of "The Presbyterian." It will be of interest to all our Alaska Missionaries and congregations.

It is evident that the independent group of churches on the Pacific Coast will be sending workers into Alaska as rapidly as funds and volunteers can be enlisted. They will endeavor not merely to win those whom our churches have not been able to reach, but they will make a special drive to win to their support as many of the members as they may be able to influence with their propaganda against denominationalism.

We must be prepared to counteract the effect of their efforts by strengthening our congregations in their loyalty to their church and to their ministers by a vigorous and persistent program of teaching and preaching which is directed toward giving them a clearer understanding of the divine origin of the Church, to develop a more earnest devotion to its work both locally and for the carrying forward of its world wide mission. The activity of this independent group is not only a threat to our work but a challenge. Let us meet it courageously, wisely, and in the Spirit of Christ.

Faithfully,

J. M. Somerndike

Dr. Roy T. Brumbaugh, who withdrew from the Presbytery of Olympia and the First Church of Tacoma, in protest to the action of the General Assembly, re the Independent Board, to organize an independent Bible church, prefers to remain independent instead of cooperating with the Presbyterian Church of America. Here is his program, as proclaimed by himself: At a meeting held in the Independent Bible Church of Tacoma, the Pacific Northwest Regional Conference of the Independent Fundamental Churches was organized, with Dr. Brumbaugh as president; Dr. Robinson, of Vancouver, as vice president, and Dr. Gerlg, of Portland, as chairman of the executive committee.

The organization of the Alaska Evangelization Society was also completed, and the following officers elected: Dr. W. E. Pietsch, of the Independent Fundamental Churches, president, and Dr. Brumbaugh, vice president. Floyd Gilman, now in Alaska, was appointed field secretary, with Mrs. Gilman as missionary nurse, and Miss Martha Pohnert, of Portland, as home representative. The purpose of this group is to unite the numerous independent missionaries now laboring in Alaska into a vanguard and to add to their numbers as funds will permit. Celebrating the first anniversary of this Independent Bible Church, Dr. Brumbaugh reports 820 active members, 15 elders, 53 deacons, a staff of seven workers, with one home missionary. The theme of the anniversary sermon was, "Our Exodus."

Dec. 1936

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

December 21st, 1936

TO THE ALASKA AND INDIAN MISSIONARIES

Dear Fellow-Worker:

The Board of Christian Education has just published a pamphlet entitled JUNIORS EXPLORE THE ALCOHOL PROBLEM. It is a unit designed especially for teaching Junior boys and girls, its purpose being to help them discover the nature and effects of alcohol, to understand the problem created by the use of alcoholic beverages, to determine their responsibility for their own welfare, and that of others, and to reach conclusions as to desirable attitudes and conduct in harmony with the principles of Christlike living.

I am enclosing a copy herewith. I am sure you will examine it with great interest and if you find it adaptable for use in connection with your instruction of Indian children in the boarding schools, in day schools, or in week day classes conducted in connection with the church, it may prove to be of timely service. This pamphlet is not designed to be placed in the hands of pupils, but is for the use of teachers only. It would be well, however, if the pupils were provided with notebooks for this course.

If you need a few additional copies of this unit for the use of workers in your station who wish to teach it to Junior or other groups, I shall be glad to send you a reasonable number free of charge.

With best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

J. M. SOMERNDIKE

Secretary

JMS:PDS

Dec. 1936

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

December, 1936.

Per 80
↓ 12/28/36

TO THE ALASKA MISSIONARIES:-

I am attaching a copy of a letter which I have just received from Hon. John Collier, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, which was written in response to an earnest letter I wrote to him on October 26th relative to the necessity of placing some restraint upon the liquor traffic among the Indians in Alaska.

We shall all unite our prayers that through Providential interposition a satisfactory plan will be developed to deal with this situation.

J. M. SOMERNDIKE
Secretary.

JMS:BH

Dec. 1936

C
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P
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Department of the Interior,
Office of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Dec. 19th, 1936.

Dr. J. M. Somerndike,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

This will refer to your letter of October 26th with regard to the control of the sale of liquor to the Indians in Alaska.

We have an organization within the Service which has for its purpose the duty of suppressing the traffic in intoxicants among the Indians. Our work has been entirely in the States. With the enactment of the Act of June 18, 1934, known as the Indian Reorganization Act, and the Act of May 1, 1936, to extend to Alaska the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act, our duties and responsibilities will be materially changed and at the same time certain responsibilities will be placed upon the Indians and communities when they organize under the provisions of this legislation. For your information we are enclosing a copy of each of the two acts.

Mr. O. H. Lipps, Field Representative of this Service, is now in Alaska for the purpose of making a study or survey of the entire situation as it relates to the Indians and Eskimos and the possibility of organizing these people in accordance with the terms of these acts. While there, Mr. Lipps was asked to look into the liquor situation. He is expected to return from Alaska about the middle of January, at which time we hope to be in a position to take some definite action in the matter.

There is a probability also that we shall ask our Chief Special Officer, Mr. L. C. Mueller, to visit Alaska to study the situation strictly from the standpoint of control and supervision of the traffic in intoxicants and with a view to working out plans for dealing with the situation.

I have read your letter with feeling as well as with interest. I know the facts are as you state them.

May we take this opportunity to express our appreciation of your interest in the matter.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN COLLIER

Commissioner.

